

1 IN THE DISCLOSURE

2 1. Replace the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 9 with the following paragraph.

3 A modeler's power panel and the associated battery for providing the various DC  
4 electrical outputs are commonly included in or on a housing or carrying case that allows the  
5 devices to be carried together easily in the field. This housing or carrying case commonly  
6 includes additional areas for containing accessories and other [or] materials used by the modeler  
7 in the field. Although these portable power panels and accessory carriers are helpful to the  
8 modeler, they do not provide support for all of the equipment used by the modeler in the field. In  
9 particular, prior art power panels do not provide support for the modeler's transmitter and  
10 receiver units or any other battery-powered devices on the model vehicle. Although battery  
11 technology has improved over the years, the batteries in a modeler's transmitter and receiver  
12 units, and other batteries that may be included on the model vehicle, still require fairly frequent  
13 charging. Especially during model vehicle competitions or shows, or any other times when the  
14 model vehicle may be operated for extended periods, it may be necessary to recharge the batteries  
15 in a transmitter unit, receiver unit, or other batteries that may be included in the model vehicle.  
16 This meant that the modeler had to leave the field to locate an AC power source which could be  
17 used to drive the various charger circuits used to recharge the transmitter or receiver batteries, or  
18 other batteries included in the vehicle.

2. Replace the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 15 with the following paragraph.

A method according to the invention includes supplying an appropriate DC electrical output from an electrical power storage arrangement to a modeler's field accessory power output. The method also includes inverting the DC output from the electrical power storage arrangement to produce a modeler's AC output. The method may further include the step of charging the electrical power storage arrangement [form] from any DC automotive electrical power system. The modeler's AC power output produced from the electrical power storage arrangement may be applied to a suitable battery charging circuit to charge one or more batteries associated with a model control device such as a transmitter or receiver.

1 **REMARKS**

2 The Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-3 and 5-19  
3 in view of the above amendments and the following arguments.

4  
5 I. THE AMENDMENTS

6 The disclosure and abstract are amended above to correct typographical errors in the  
7 application as originally filed.

8 Claim 1 is amended above to incorporate the limitation previously set out in claim 4 and  
9 to require that the power panel is mounted on an exterior surface of the housing. Claim 4 is  
10 canceled. Claim 1 is also amended to refer simply to "a battery" and claims 2, 3, 5, and 6 are  
11 amended for consistency with this change in claim 1. Claim 8 is amended to require at least one  
12 of several specific modeler's DC output devices mounted on an exterior surface of the housing,  
13 and claim 11 is amended to require all of the specific modeler's DC output devices. Claims 15  
14 and 18 are amended similarly to claims 8 and 11, respectively.

15  
16 II. THE CLAIMS ARE NOVEL AND NONOBVIOUS OVER THE CITED ART

17 The Office Action rejected claims 1-3, 5-10, 12-17 and 19 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as  
18 being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,560,131 to vonBrethorst. (the "131 patent"). The Office  
19 Action also rejected claims 4, 11, and 18 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the  
20 131 patent. The Applicant believes the claims as amended are not anticipated by the 131 patent  
21 and are not obvious in view of the 131 patent. In particular, the Applicant submits that the 131

1 patent does not teach or suggest each element required in the present claims, and that there is no  
2 teaching or suggestion in the prior art to modify the 131 patent to include each element required  
3 in the present claims.

4 Claims 1-3 and 5-7

5 Claim 1 as amended above is directed to an apparatus requiring the following elements:

- 6 (a) a housing having at least one carrying feature;
- 7 (b) a battery mounted within the housing;
- 8 (c) an inverter circuit for inverting an output of the battery to produce a modeler's AC  
9 power output; and
- 10 (d) a modeler's power panel connected to the housing and operatively connected to  
11 receive power from the battery, the modeler's power panel being located on an  
12 exterior surface of the housing and including a modeler's DC pump output, a  
13 modeler's DC glow plug output, and a modeler's DC starter output.

14 The 131 patent does not teach or suggest the externally located modeler's power panel including  
15 a modeler's DC pump output, a modeler's DC glow plug output, and a modeler's DC starter  
16 output as required at element (d) of claim 1. In contrast to the apparatus required in claim 1, the  
17 131 patent is directed to a stored energy system for delivering AC electrical power to a load as  
18 indicated at Col. 1, lines 35 and 36 of the 131 patent. The apparatus shown in the 131 patent is  
19 specifically designed to take multiple different types of power inputs, such as DC solar panel, DC  
20 wind generator, AC generator, and AC utility line, and either store that input power for later  
21 output as 120 VAC-60Hz power or condition the input signal as necessary for output as 120

1 VAC-60Hz power (See particularly the 131 patent at Col. 3, line 65 to Col. 4, line 16). Although  
2 the 131 patent discloses that a DC load may be connected to the system through circuit breaker  
3 160, there is no suggestion of the particular DC outputs required at element (d) of claim one and  
4 no suggestion that the DC load is located outside of the system housing 12 (See the upper left  
5 corner of Figure 3 in the 131 patent). The 131 patent discloses a stored power system for  
6 supplying AC power to a house as indicated at Col. 4, lines 8-10, and there is no suggestion  
7 anywhere in the prior art to modify the system disclosed in the 131 patent to include any  
8 modeler's DC outputs, let alone all three of the modeler's DC outputs required at element (d) of  
9 claim 1.

10 For all of these reasons, the Applicant submits that claim 1 is not anticipated or rendered  
11 obvious by the 131 patent and is entitled to allowance together with its respective dependent  
12 claims, claims 2, 3, and 5-7.

13 In addition to being allowable from dependency on an allowable base claim, several of  
14 the claims depending from claim 1 include limitations not taught or suggested by the 131 patent.  
15 In particular, claim 3 requires a source battery monitoring device for discontinuing a charging  
16 operation when the DC power source reaches a predefined discharge level. The device disclosed  
17 in the 131 patent includes no such element, which is not surprising considering the stored power  
18 system in that patent is charged only from a wind power generator or a solar panel, and not any  
19 DC power source such as a battery that is subject to becoming discharged. For these reasons, the  
20 Applicant believes claim 3 is allowable both as being dependent on an allowable claim and in  
21 view of the limitation that it directly adds.

1 Claim 6 requires that the battery is adapted to be charged by a standard 12 volt DC  
2 automotive power system. In contrast, the device shown in the 131 patent is charged from a  
3 wind power generator or a solar power panel. Considering that the device shown in the 131  
4 patent is intended to supply AC power to a house, there can be no reasonable suggestion that the  
5 storage batteries included in that device could be adapted to be charged by a standard 12 volt DC  
6 automotive power system. The Applicant therefore believes claim 6 is allowable both as being  
7 dependent on an allowable claim and in view of the limitation that it directly adds.

8 Claims 8-14

9 Claim 8 is directed to an apparatus having the following elements:

- 10 (a) a housing having at least one carrying feature;
- 11 (b) an electrical power storage arrangement mounted within the housing;
- 12 (c) an inverter circuit for inverting an output of the electrical power storage  
13 arrangement to produce a modeler's AC power output; and
- 14 (d) a modeler's power panel connected to the housing and operatively connected to  
15 receive power from the electrical power storage arrangement, the modeler's power  
16 panel being located on an exterior surface of the housing and including at least  
17 one of a modeler's DC pump output, a modeler's DC glow plug output, and a  
18 modeler's DC starter output.

19 As discussed above in connection with claim 1, the device disclosed in the 131 patent does not  
20 teach or suggest a modeler's power panel of any type located on an exterior surface of the system  
21 housing. Considering that the device disclosed in the 131 patent is intended to accept power

1 inputs from a number of different sources and supply input AC power to a house, there can be no  
2 reasonable suggestion in the prior art to modify the device shown in the 131 patent to provide a  
3 modeler's power panel having any of the DC power outputs required in claim 8.

4 Because the 131 patent does not teach or suggest the structure required at element (d) of  
5 claim 8, the Applicant respectfully submits that claim 8 is not anticipated or rendered obvious by  
6 the 131 patent and is in condition for allowance together with its dependent claims, claims 9-14.  
7 The Applicant also submits that claim 10 is independently allowable for the same reasons stated  
8 above for claim 3, and that claim 13 is independently allowable for the same reasons stated above  
9 for claim 6. The Applicant believes claim 11 is also independently allowable since the 131  
10 patent does not teach or suggest a modeler's power panel having all three of the DC outputs  
11 required in that claim.

12 Claims 15-19

13 Claim 15 is directed to a method including the steps of:

- 14 (a) supplying an appropriate DC output from an electrical power storage arrangement  
15 to at least one of a modeler's DC pump output, a modeler's DC glow plug output,  
16 and a modeler's DC starter output, the electrical power storage arrangement being  
17 mounted in a readily portable housing and the at least one of the modeler's DC  
18 pump output, modeler's DC glow plug output, and modeler's DC starter output  
19 being located so as to be accessible from outside the readily portable housing; and  
20 (b) inverting the DC output from the electrical power storage arrangement to produce  
21 a modeler's AC output.

1 As indicated above with reference to claims 1 and 8, the 131 patent does not teach or suggest  
2 providing power from a DC storage arrangement to any modeler's DC power panel. Considering  
3 that the device shown in the 131 patent is intended to supply AC power to a house, there can be  
4 no reasonable suggestion to modify that device to provide power to a modeler's DC power panel  
5 as required at element (a) of claim 15.

6 Because the 131 patent does not teach or suggest the method step required at element (a)  
7 of claim 15, the Applicant respectfully submits that claim 15 is not anticipated or rendered  
8 obvious by the 131 patent and is in condition for allowance together with its dependent claims,  
9 claims 16-19. The Applicant further submits that claim 16 is independently allowable for  
10 reasons similar to those described above for claim 6, and that claim 17 is independently  
11 allowable for reasons similar to those described above for claim 3.



1 III. CONCLUSION

2 For all of the above reasons, the Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and  
3 allowance of claims 1-3 and 5-19. If the Examiner should feel that any issue remains as to the  
4 allowability of these claims, or that a further conference might expedite allowance of the claims,  
5 he is asked to telephone the Applicant's attorney, Russell D. Culbertson, at the number listed  
6 below.

8 Respectfully submitted,

9 THE CULBERTSON GROUP, P.C.

10 Dated: 24 July 2006

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21 CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE

22 I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, (Fax  
23 No. 571-273-8300) on July 24, 2006.

24 Russell D. Culbertson, Reg. No. 32,124 